



December 7, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Michael O'Reilly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

RE: MB Docket No 05-311 In the Matter of Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992

Aloha Chairman Pai and Commissioners,

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Cultural Advisors

Kimokeo Kapahulehua
Kahu Lyons K. Naone

On behalf of the Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, we strongly support Akakū Maui Community Television in the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making (SFNPRM). We strongly oppose the tentative conclusions reached by the FCC in proceedings because of the negative impacts upon our community.

Despite Maui's international reputation as a top tourism destination, our island residents must rely on national or Honolulu media for news and information that rarely involves local issues. Akakū, our PEG Access channel fills this gap.

The SFNPRM allows cable companies to determine how their franchise fee revenue for use of **public** right of way will be spent and restricts Local Franchise Authority oversight. Our PEG Access TV non-profit organization relies on 3 percent of cable franchise fees for most of its funding. If the rulemaking is adopted, it will cause irreparable harm to community and civic engagement. Rural communities like Maui are especially dependent upon robust local media to inform and educate. National and Honolulu-based media do not report on issues of great importance to those who live in Maui County, which includes the islands of Moloka'i and Lāna'i.

When Congress established the Cable Act, their intent was to benefit all citizens as the rightful owners of public airways. Akakū has a stellar record of providing equal access to all voices in our community. Drastically reducing their revenue to further increase the profits of a corporate cable operators is unconscionable for a Federal agency charged with protecting public interests.

Allowing cable operators to reduce franchise fee support for local communities if they opt for local channels diminishes the ability of PEG channels like Akakū to serve rural communities such as ours. We request the SFNPRM not be adopted.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teri Freitas Gorman".

Teri Freitas Gorman
President, Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce